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ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

Letter dated 2 December 1994 from the Permanent Representatives of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of the Governments of the five Nordic countries and in accordance with the procedures referred to in article 26 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, we hereby request a revision of article 20, paragraph 1, of the said Convention.

The proposal for revision of article 20, paragraph 1, is that in article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention the words "normally meet for a period of not more than two weeks annually in order" be deleted and replaced by the following words: "meet annually for a period necessary".

The proposals for how this amendment might be considered are enclosed (see annex).

(Signed) Bent HAAKONSEN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of Denmark

(Signed) Gunnar PALSSON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
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(Signed) Fredrik Wilhelm BREITENSTEIN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
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(Signed) Hans Jacob BIØRN LIAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
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(Signed) Peter OSVALD
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
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ANNEX

Proposal by the Governments of the Nordic countries for a revision of article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

The Nordic Governments propose, in accordance with article 26 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, that the States parties to the Convention decide on the procedure for considering the amendment sought to article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention, including by stipulating the conditions necessary for the adoption of an amendment and for its entry into force. This decision could be taken on the basis that:

(a) If an amendment is adopted by the majority of States parties present and voting at the meeting, it shall be submitted to the General Assembly for approval, and that, if so adopted, the amendment shall enter into force when it has been approved by the General Assembly and accepted by two thirds of the States parties;

(b) When an amendment enters into force, it shall be binding on those States parties which have accepted it as well as on those States parties which ratify or accede to the Convention as amended after the date of the entry into force of the amendment, other States parties still being bound by the provisions of the Convention.